



July 2, 2015

The Honorable Lois Wolk
California State Senate
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 555 (Support)

Dear Senator Wolk,

As businesses concerned with the short-term and long-term risks associated with California's unprecedented drought and future climate projections, we, the undersigned, are writing to support SB 555. We believe SB 555 will help place California on the path to a sustainable water future.

Water lost from leaks and breaks in urban water suppliers' distribution systems is a significant problem in California. A 2010 study conducted for the California Public Utilities Commission estimated that 10% of urban water (870,000 acre-feet) is lost to leaks and that 40% of that water (350,000 acre-feet) could be cost-effectively recovered through pressure management, leak repair, and targeted pipe replacement.

SB 555 establishes annual requirements for the filing of water loss audit reports by urban water suppliers. The bill would also direct that water audit reports be validated before being submitted to the state. Validated audits provide useful and actionable information for individual water suppliers and meaningful data for aggregation and analysis by researchers and policy makers.

SB 555 represents a reasonable approach to improving water loss management and reporting without placing undue burden on urban water suppliers, and will ensure that performance standards, when set, are based on a reasoned review of the water loss experience reported by California's urban water suppliers.

Conducting audits will increase water supply reliability, reduce energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions and prolong water infrastructure longevity.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

The Coca-Cola Company – Atlanta, GA
Dignity Health – San Francisco, CA
Gap, Inc. – San Francisco, CA

MillerCoors – Chicago, IL
Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. – Chico, CA
Symantec Corporation – Mountain View, CA

